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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Chief, Economic Research Area
THRU : Chief, Materials Division
FROM : Chief, Nonferrous Metals and Minerals Branch

DATE: 27 May 1958

25X1X1 SUBJECT: [REDACTED] Nonferrous Metallurgy

Reference: Memorandum from Chief, ERA on "ORR Participation in the Next CSR Course," dated 22 May 1958

1. Until recently, the general experience of M/NF analysts, despite the exceptions noted in Paragraph 3 of this memorandum, has been that [REDACTED] reports, particularly on the Soviet Union, left much to be desired. It is believed that the poor quality of [REDACTED] reporting on nonferrous metals was due in large part to the almost complete lack of communication between DD/I analysts and their [REDACTED] counterparts. The barriers between the two sides of the house were such that M/NF analysts, at least, were unwilling to spend the time and effort necessary to try and obtain answers which, at best, were fed back through at least three levels of requirements officers. By the same token, there was, to the best of M/NF's knowledge, no effort on the part of [REDACTED] case or reports officers to ascertain the nature of the problems on non-ferrous metallurgy in the Sino-Soviet Bloc.

2. Since the beginning of this year, M/NF has made a serious effort to develop closer communications with the [REDACTED]. The USSR Section of M/NF has raised specific questions with both the Soviet requirements people and with the SR people who are responsible for the publication of reports on the Soviet economy and industry. From the standpoint of this Branch, at least, these direct contacts have been most beneficial. M/NF has prepared specific requirements [REDACTED] which, it is hoped, will have some likelihood of being answered; M/NF now has a better appreciation of [REDACTED] problems; and M/NF is taking every opportunity to provide more adequate guidance [REDACTED]. For example, in addition to preparing requested evaluations, M/NF is giving far closer attention to [REDACTED] reports received by the Branch. In recent weeks this Branch has prepared several voluntary evaluations designed to indicate specific problems created by [REDACTED] reports and to indicate that certain of the [REDACTED]

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would appear to be of dubious value. It is believed that the continuation of direct contact between M/NF and [REDACTED] will do much to improve the quality of the [REDACTED] reports; and this, in turn, will be reflected in better intelligence production on the Soviet non-ferrous industry.

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3. In terms of reports of value, M/NF has noted the following: 25X1X6

a. [REDACTED] "Soviet Plants" and [REDACTED] "Nickel-Copper Plant at Monchegorsk" provided, among other items, detailed technical information on a Soviet copper plant, speculation about the Soviet titanium industry, and data on the Soviet aluminum fabricating industry. The data on the copper plant, for the most part, were new to M/NF; and the data on titanium and aluminum, although available in part from other sources, were of considerable value to us.

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b. [REDACTED] "Rumanian Institute of Mines," and [REDACTED] "Enterprise of Gheorghe Doja at Zlatna, Rumania" provided data on both overall nonferrous operations in Rumania and also gave useful information about a particular plant in which M/NF is interested.

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c. [REDACTED] "The Legnica Metallurgical Works, Poland" gave specific plant information which was utilized in a recent M/NF estimate prepared for the Air Force.

d. During the past two years, M/NF has found that a series of [REDACTED] reports on trade between the USSR and Austria have provided useful numbers for the Branch's annual report of the Sino-Soviet Bloc copper trade.

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RR/M/NF [REDACTED] :djm/2979 (27 May 58)

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